IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Melcher

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Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This amendment is being filed to place the application claims in better condition for preliminary examination. A clean version of the amended claims to replace the claims as originally filed in the international application is attached, together with a marked-up version of the claims.

In the marked-up version of the claims: the original claims 1-23 have been canceled. Claims 1-25 (previously 24-48) have been amended to renumber claims.

CONCLUSION

If any extra fees are due as a result of this response, please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0513. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if this would in any way advance the prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 27, 2006

David E. Allred Reg. No. 47,254

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